HUDCO will assist in the implementation of the programme of setting up a national network of Nirman or Nirmithi Kendras country, which will, *inter alia*, provide easy access to locally relevant low cost building materials and techniques including mud construction.

*359. [*Transferred to the 24th March*, 1988.]

Revamping of the SAIL

*360. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any inquiry so far into the working of the SAIL; if so, what is the nature of irregularities detected;

(b) whether Government propose to take any steps to revamp the SAIL to improve its functioning; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR) : (a) No specific irregularities in the working of SAIL have come to the notice of Government necessitating an enquiry.

(b) and (c) The performance of SAIL is reviewed regularly and where necessary directions are given for steps to improve the performance.

Cadbury's Apple Concentrate Plant

@2405. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for which Cadbury shut down their Plant manufacturing apple concentrate in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) what was the export commitment made by Cadbury regarding the export of apple concentrate and how much was exported?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) M/s. Cadbury (I) Ltd. (later on changed to Hindustan Coco Products Ltd.) decided to close the Apple Juice Concentrate Plant in Jammu & Kashmir with effect from 20th September, 1983 due to uneconomic operation and accumulation of losses during the last 3 years of its operation.

(b) The industrial licence issued on 14-6-79 in favour of M/s. Cadbury (I) Ltd., Bombay (later on changed to Hindustan Coco Products Ltd.) stipulated that the Company should export apple juice concentrate for a total F.O.B. value of Rs. 44 lakhs over a period of 5 years or for a total F.O.B. value equivalent to the total amount of foreign exchange spent by them on import of capital goods, raw materials etc., whichever was greater. During 1981 and 1982, Apple Juice Concentrate worth Rs. 87 lakhs were exported. After the closure of the plant in September, 1983, the undisposed stocks worth Rs. 38.57 lakhs were exported during 1984.

Performance of IRDP

2406. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assistance is given to the poor under the Integrated Rural Development Programme;

(b) whether Government have fixed any revised line of poverty;

(c) whether the findings by the twenty-seven independent reputed research units into the performance of IRDP are satisfactory; and

@Previously Unstarred Question 1972 transferred from the 14th March, 1988.

(d) the average increase in annual income of these poor families as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) aims to assist those with an annual household income upto Rs. 4,800|-.

(b) During the VIIth Five-Year Plan Period, a family having an annual income of Rs. 6,400|- or less is considered to be a family below the poverty line.

(c) The latest report on Concurrent Evaluation of IRDP (January—September 1987) highlights both positive aspects of the programme implementation as also identifies some areas of concern. The positive points include:

(i) About 91 per cent of the families assisted belong to the target group of people with income upto Rs. 4,800 per annum, the cut off line of assistance;

(ii) 60 per cent beneficiaries are selected in the meeting of Gram Sabha;

(iii) About 81 per cent beneficiaries had found the assistance sufficient;

(iv) About 43 per cent of sample families had no overdues and another 43 per cent had overdues of less than Rs. 1000;

(v) In 72 per cent cases the assets were found intact;

(vi) Assets had generated incremental income in 78 per cent cases;

(vii) At the national level 48 per cent old beneficiaries belonging to destitute and very poor group i.e. with initial income of less than Rs. 3500 had crossed the poverty line of Rs. 3500, 5 per cent such families had also crossed the revised poverty line of Rs. 6400.

The areas of concern highlighted include:

(i) Selection of ineligible families was 9 per cent;

(ii) in 28 per cent cases there was some difference in the assessed and recorded value of assets;

(iii) Working capital was required in 59 per cent cases but it could not be provided in 24 per cent cases;

(iv) Repayment period was less than 3 years in 13 per cent cases;

(v) Insurance of the assets was not done in 26 per cent cases out of 71 per cent cases requiring insurance;

(vi) Training was not imparted to beneficiaries in 30 per cent cases out of 34 per cent cases requiring training;

(vii) Aftercare support was not made available in 54 per cent cases out of 78 per cent cases requiring such support and aftercare.

(viii) In 22 per cent cases no incremental income was generated.

(d) The findings of the Concurrent Evaluation January—September 1987 also State that about 36 per cent families had experienced an increase of more than 50 per cent of their pre-assistance income and in case of 13 per cent of these families, increase of even more than 100 per cent of their pre-assistance income was effected.

Progress of the Gas-based Fertilizer Plants

2407. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the present stage of the proposed six gas-based fertilizer units in the country;

(b) the reasons for delay if any, in each project; and

(c) the action taken for monitoring these projects so that they are commissioned by the targeted date?